

**City of Whitewater**  
**Parks and Recreation Board Agenda**  
**Monday, November 1, 2010 - 5:00pm**  
Cravath Lakefront Room - 2nd Floor, City Municipal Building  
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

David Stone, Brandon Knedler, Vance Dalzin, Pru Negley, and Jen Kaina (5:08 pm ) Absent: Rick Daniels (excused)

Guests: Kevin Brunner, Bruce Parker, Bev Stone, Richard Ehrenberg, Linda Long, and Tiiu Gray-Fow

**Consent Agenda**

CA-A Approval of October 4, 2010 Parks and Recreation Board minutes

CA-B Acknowledgment of Receipt and Filing of:

Urban Forestry Commission minutes of September 21, 2010

Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve Task Force minutes of August 2, 2010

Stone moved to accept the consent agenda. Second by Negley. Ayes: Dalzin, Negley, Knedler, Stone, Olsen. Noes: None. Absent: Kaina, Daniels

**Hearing of Citizen Comments**

No formal action will be taken during this meeting, although issues raised may become part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a 3 minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however, citizens are invited to speak to those issues as designated in the agenda.

(Olsen left 5:07)

**Staff Reports:**

Parks & Recreation Director

- 372 N Fremont Update-working with Fire Dept on removal of home
- Sculpture Walk Task Force
- W3 Challenge Week Nov 7-14, more info on the website
- Trail Development Update- awarded \$40,000 planning grant. Starin Rd and Tech Park trails moving forward. Pedestrian bridge on Starin Road project being placed in next week weather permitting
- Treyton Kilar Field of Dreams a lot of fundraising efforts and planning underway, \$42,000 currently in bank account

Recreation & Community Events Programmer

- The Halloween Party partnered with Trick or Treat the Triangle. Great weather and turnout. No problems resulted as a conflict with homecoming.
- Freeze Fest will be Saturday February 19.
- Ivy Miles is moving her fitness programs to her own space in January. We will provide some adult fitness classes

Senior Coordinator

- Global Gala was successful and a fun night.

- One Stop Shop fundraiser will be Saturday November 20. Tables are sold out.
- Silver Star Award was received by Seniors in the Park from the Wisconsin Parks and Recreation Assn for the Global Gala event in the Older Adult Category for cities under 24,000.

### **Approve Ordinance 19.56 creating Natural Landscape Yard Ordinance**

Amundson referred to the ordinance submitted and also referred to the option Knedler submitted. Negley: Council assigned the task of submitting an ordinance to address natural lawns to the Urban forestry Commission (UFC). Cities do have jurisdiction to mandate orderly use of property. There are strong public feelings on the issue and everyone has their own opinion. A lot of time, effort, thought, and research went into the ordinance. Natural landscaping is environmentally friendly and is the up and coming trend in many communities. Do not want to tell people what to do with their yards. The UFC defined what natural is, so not to have "a weed patch". They felt the legal issues should be set by the City. Change from previous ordinance: Review of plans should go to City Forester not Neighborhood Services. Amundson presented a potential application for this type of lawn. Stone did some research and our ordinance is much smaller than many other communities. Knedler commented that as he has talked with the public, they had problems with filing with the city. He suggested that issues only be dealt with if there is a problem and not require people to submit plans in advance. Negley: The ordinance is also an educational tool and knows many people will not file. It will help people to know the scope of having a natural lawn. The City Attorney said it could be prescriptive or postscriptive. The ordinance will not be under zoning but under some other area of ordinances. The UFC is hoping to avoid ill will between neighbors with a prescriptive ordinance. Linda Long questioned definitions of what can be in a natural lawn. Questioned burns in a residential area. Can there be a blending of the two ordinance proposals with an option to file if people want to file for approval from the city, just not have filing as a requirement. Currently people have to mow unless get approval from the city for a natural lawn. Tiiu Gray-Fow: This ordinance actually broadens what people can do with their lawns. In most cases natural landscaping increases property values. Motion by Negley to accept ordinance as submitted by Urban Forestry Commission with a review by staff and city attorney. Second by Dalzin. Kaina: Question about impact on staff. Parker commented it should not be large impact and felt prescriptive would be better to avoid problems. Ayes: Dalzin, Negley, Kaina, Stone. Noes: Knedler. Absent: Daniels, Olsen.

### **Amending Ordinance 2.52 Park and Recreation Board as it relates to the definition of quorum**

Amundson: This changes number of votes for passing an item from four votes to a majority of those in attendance. This is the same as most other committees at the city. Stone would rather see it stay four votes, as parks are important. Amundson commented there can be time sensitive issues that sometimes need to be approved and cannot wait another month. The original ordinance may have been based on plan commission, which has more state requirements for votes and is a little more onerous than what we need. We also need to look at attendance requirements for the alternate. Motion by Negley to keep ordinance the same requiring four votes for items to pass. Second by Knedler. Ayes: Dalzin, Knedler, Kaina, Stone. Noes: Negley. Absent: Daniels, Olsen.

### **Review draft of Lakes Management Plan**

Will Bazely/Minneiska Ski Team would like to ski more on the lake but there is a lot of muck and rock in the lake. Willing to help as needed. Amundson: Lakes Plan draft, which arrived today, came in at 160 pages and did not have an executive summary. Would like to get report out to Lakes committee who need to see it and will have a meeting next week to discuss the plan. They will develop bullet points on the report and bring it back to the Board.

**Review and possible action regarding restoration plan for Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve**

Amundson referred to packet. Amundson reviewed the choices and why Jennings was chosen. Funding will come from a combination of sources including the Parkland Development and Forestry Funds with reimbursement from grants, as obtained. There will be a prairie burn at the Mounds this coming spring. Plans will be made to possibly have parking at the site, a bus turn around, and a visitor center with future development plans. Kaina moved to approve the selection of Jennings & Associates to complete a restoration plan as submitted. Second by Dalzin. Ayes: Dalzin, Negley, Knedler, Kaina, and Stone. Noes: None. Absent: Daniels, Olsen.

**Review and possible action on Facility Rental & Reservation Policy**

Amundson referred to changes in packet and asked for the changes to go into effect January 1. Negley moved to accept Facility Rental & Reservation Policy as presented. Second by Kaina. Ayes: Dalzin, Negley, Knedler, Kaina, and Stone. Noes: None. Absent: Daniels, Olsen.

**Discussion and direction regarding selling of goods in city parks**

Amundson referred to memo in packet. All requests should be brought to and approved by the Park Board. Board directed Amundson to develop a policy.

**Request for future agenda items**

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned on a voice vote at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Weberpal